

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 EA-07 USIE-00 ACDA-07
OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 /111 W
-----181315Z 061155 /41

O P 181205Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1716
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY
AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
CINCPAC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 5130

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PK
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITUATION IN PAKISTAN

SUMMARY: THE SECURITY SITUATION IN PAKISTAN'S MAJOR CITIES REMAINED
RELATIVELY CALM TODAY WHILE THERE WERE REPORTS OF NEW ALTERCATIONS
IN SOME OF THE OUTLYING AREAS. THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PRESS EASED OFF ON THE ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN WHICH
CONTIUED UNABATED IN SOME SEGMENTS OF THE URDU LANGUAGE
PRESS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SITUATION IN THE THREE MAJOR CITIES
STILL UNDER MARTIAL LAW REMAINS CALM IN THE WAKE
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OF BHUTTO'S REFERENDUM CALL. IN KARACHI AND HYDER-
WSAD THE CURFEW IS RELAXED WHILE IN LAHORE THE CURFEW
WAS COMPLETELY LIFTED. THERE ARE REPORTS OF NEW
CONFRONTATIONS IN SOME OF THE OUTLYING AREAS,
HOWEVER, IN ALI PUR, FIFTY-TWO MILES FROM
MUZAFARGARH IN THE PUNJAB, FOUR PERSONS WERE
KILLED AND TWENTY-FOUR WERE WOUNDED IN A CLASH

BETWEEN TWO RIVAL GROUPS, ACCORDING TO A GOP PRESS RELEASE. TWO MULLAHS WERE AMONG THE DEAD.

2. THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS TODAY EASED OFF ON ITS ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES. THE PAKISTAN TIMES CONTAINED A SHORT ARTICLE ON THE BACK PAGE, WHICH WAS ALSO CARRIED ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE NEW TIMES, CRITICIZING THE UNITED STATES. THE ARTICLE SAID THAT SECRETARY VANCE, COMMENTING ON AZIZ AHMED ZHILA - ATTENDANCE AT THE CENTO MINISTERIAL, CRITICIZED THE GOP FOR NOT "SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY" TO HOLD TALKS OFFERED BY THE MEETING.

3. SECTIONS OF THE URDU PRESS, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO FEATURE ALLEGATIONS OF U.S. INTERFERENCE IN PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. THE WEEKLY MAGAZINE

AL-FATAH, SEEN IN PAKISTAN AS A "LEFTIST" PUBLICATION, COMMENTING ON BHUTTO'S DISCLOSURE OF A MASSIVE INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY SAID THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT A PAKISTANI HEAD OF STATE HAD HAD THE COURAGE TO DETEST AMERICAN IMPERIALISM. THE DAILY MUSAWAT, THE OFFICIAL PPP NEWSPAPER, REPORTS THAT AN AMERICAN SMUGGLER IS BEING INVESTIGATED BY A TEAM OF HIGH POLICE OFFICIALS IN LAHORE. THE SMUGGLER HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN A POLICE RAID WHICH HAD REPORTEDLY NETTED APPROX. \$20,000. THE ARTICLE ADDS THAT IN THE LIGHT OF MR. BHUTTO'S SPEECH REVEALING THE DOLLAR CONSPIRACY

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THE POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING TO SEE WHAT THE DESTINATION OF THE DOLLARS WAS. SSRZHER URDU DAILY, HURRIYAT REPORTED THAT THE ACTING GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PAKISTAN WORKERS'S FEDERATION SAID IN A PRESS STATEMENT THAT, NOW WHAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS DISCLOSED THAT AMERICAN IMPERIALISM IS INTERFERING IN PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS, IMPERIALIST CAPITAL AND LOANS SHOULD BE CONFISCATED AND PL-480, CENTO, AND OTHER MILITARY LACTIONS SHOULD BE SCRAPPED.

4. NAWA-I-WAQT AND JANG BOTH REPORTED TODAY THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL UNDERTAKE AN EXTENSIVE SPEAKING TOUR OF ALL FOUR PROVINCES BEGINNING IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE. THE TOUR, UNDOUBTEDLY PART OF THE PM'S EFFORT TO KICK OFF HIS REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN BY PROJECTING AN IMAGE OF CONFIDENCE AND WILLINGNESS TO FACE THE PEOPLE, WILL BEGIN IN THE FRONTIER, CONTINUE IN SIND AND BALUCHISTAN, AND WIND UP IN THE PUNJAB. NO DATES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED NOR HAS THERE BEEN OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF THE

TRIP.
CONSTABLE

NOTE BY OC/T: PARA 3 AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

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